

National Park Service U.S. Department of the Interior Grand Teton National Park PO Box 170 Moose, Wyoming 83012

Joan Anzelmo/Jackie Skaggs (307) 739-3415 or 739-3393

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Grand Teton National Park News Release

Injured Climber Evacuated from Middle Teton

Grand Teton National Park rangers evacuated an injured climber by helicopter from near the South and Middle Teton saddle this morning, Wednesday, July 28, at approximately 8:35 a.m. Mysha Miskin, age 30, from Rexburg, Idaho was struck by rockfall at approximately 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, July 27, while climbing the Chouinard Ridge on the Middle Teton with her husband, Garon Miskin.

Although Mysha was injured by a rock that struck her just below the back of her climbing helmet, she and Garon continued to climb and summit the Middle Teton so that they could safely descend an easier route via the S.W. Couloir on the Middle Teton. By the time the climbers reached a point just below the saddle between Middle Teton and South Teton, Mysha was not able to continue further. Garon hiked back up to the saddle and made a 911 call for assistance at 10:23 Tuesday night.

Two park rangers with emergency medical gear began hiking from Lupine Meadows trailhead into the South Fork of Garnet Canyon within an hour of the emergency call and reached Mysha at about 2:45 on Wednesday morning. Four additional rangers also packed in extra medical equipment and camping gear to care for the injured Mysha until the park's contract helicopter could fly with early morning light.

This morning, park rangers carried Mysha by hand litter to a helicopter landing spot just east of the Middle and South Teton saddle, where she was then placed inside the ship for transport to the Lupine Meadows rescue facility. At 8:40 a.m., she was transferred to a park ambulance for transport to St. John's Medical Center in Jackson for treatment of her injuries.

Garon applied emergency first aid to his wife and the two climbers practiced good self rescue procedures until park rangers could reach them. They were well prepared for their climbing excursion and had extra clothing and raingear with them.

This marks the eighth major search and rescue operation in Grand Teton this year.

Grand Teton National Park 75th Anniversary ~ 1929-2004 www.nps.gov/grte